

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 22, to page 19, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

There are various methods of approximating the region. They include a method of approximating the region using a circumscribed rectangle of the object region, a method of approximating the region using a circumscribed ellipse or inscribed ellipse for the rectangle found by the preceding method, a method of approximation the region using a circumscribed ellipse for the object region, a method of creating an initial approximate polygon for the object region and then decreasing the number of vertexes of the approximate polygon so that the difference in area between the object region and the approximate polygon may lie within a reference, and a method of approximating the region using a polygon with a predetermined number of ~~vertexes~~ vertexes. Still another method is to approximate the region better using inclined figures. There are further methods taking other geometric amounts into account. They include a method of causing the center of gravity of the object region to coincide with the center of gravity of the approximate figure and a method of setting the area of the approximate figure to the value obtained by multiplying the area of the object region by a specific constant.